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Young II

Climate Resilience Ordinance

The DEA supports passing the Climate Resilience Ordinance, a municipal law that will help the City reduce greenhouse gas emissions incrementally through 2050. This law will help protect residents, especially our low-income communities of color, from impacts of climate change (e.g. extreme weather).

Q: What are your priorities to reduce emissions and lessen the impacts of climate change in Detroit during your term in office?

A: First, we should have a renewable portfolio standard in the City of Detroit that increases the amount of renewable energy used in Detroit to 25% by 2045. Secondly, we should use Carbon Capture Technology to capture carbon and transform it into clean energy. Thirdly, we need to apply the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standards (<https://www.ashrae.org/>) (<https://www.ihc.com/products/ashrae-standards.html>) and require building retrofit to meet green standards. This would also increase green jobs. Fourthly, implement Low Income Solar Energy Policy. Utilize net metering so that constituents can sell energy back to DTE, the major supplier. This will also provide lower energy bills for residents and provide clean energy for constituent health. Also, a strong solar energy policy will stop the expansion of some of the industries that are polluting and killing people. Pace financing, buffer walls, and green streets and buildings.

Sustainability & Equity

Sustainable and equitable development requires our City officials to balance public health and environmental needs with economic growth and job creation. When new projects and developments are under consideration, all too often economic interests may outweigh critical environmental concerns, that are likely to decrease the quality of life for residents, especially low-income, people of color, and other vulnerable communities.

Q: As you consider development proposals in your role as an elected official, how would you balance economic interests and environmental concerns?

A: They are one in the same.

Air

The DEA supports the air quality improvements recommended in the Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CA-PHE) Detroit Air Quality Public Health Action Plan.

Q: Share up to three air quality improvements you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: (1) Increase Air Monitoring and (2) Air Quality Rules by ordinance with support of the City Council and The People. Use Clean Renewable Energy Bonds or Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds or levy a carbon tax to provide clean air for citizens to breathe by (3) installing filters to protect citizens. (4) Use trees as buffer walls to filter pollution.

Waste

Recycling brings value back into the waste stream, reduces negative effects of disposal (including toxic emissions, leakages, and lost resources and energy), and creates the potential for new markets. Detroit has an opt-in curbside recycling program limited to single households and residences up to four units. Given your role, share the strategies and policies for waste reduction and reuse you will support in response to the question below.

Q: How will you work to increase recycling options for all residents, including people who live in apartments?

A: Increase the number of recycling centers. Expand the Recycling Program for multi-family units. Maintain the opt-in provisions and allow apartment dwellers to opt-in with expanded containers, specifically for recycling.

Q: How will you work to increase diversion of waste from the incinerator, for use in industry and commerce?

A: Renewable Portfolio Standard System — that would give us 25% renewable energy sources by 2045.

Land Use and Food Access

The City of Detroit owns 24 square miles of structure-free, vacant land that can be put into private hands for productive use.

Q: What is your top priority for publicly-owned land in Detroit?

A: Green infrastructure bank. Public Land Trusts and Land Conservancies. Cluster zoning with development. Low impact development ordinances. Healthy food and urban agriculture are surely connected in Detroit. Accessing healthy, culturally-appropriate food can be a challenge. Residents depend upon the

network of gardens and farms that exist throughout Detroit for sustenance.

Q: Given your role, what would you do to ensure that residents have access to healthy, culturally-appropriate food?

A: Grow fresh food and make it available. Open an Office of Opportunity that includes fresh food components and more open air and farmer's markets.

Water

Detroit is a Great Lakes city. The DEA supports the Detroit Water Agenda, which provides recommendations for ensuring all Detroiters will have access to affordable, clean, safe water to drink and use. It encourages water conservation and endorses effective models of resilient water management, which embrace a basin-wide perspective and integrated planning of urban development, green and gray water infrastructure.

Q: Share up to three Detroit Water Agenda recommendations you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: (1) Get rid of 83/17 rule for Detroiters to be responsible for 83% of construction costs for suburban water infrastructure. (2) Non-common for all combined sewer overflow. (3) Adapt Water Affordability Program (Michigan Welfare Rights Organization); (4) Use \$50 million annual payment from GLWA (Great Lakes Water Authority) for capital improvements to draw down \$500-\$800 million using the State Bonding Authority using their credit rating to borrow. (5) Be more aggressive with our commercial customers to make sure that they pay their fair share, which has not occurred.

Green stormwater infrastructure helps manage sewage overflows, reduces basement flooding and builds healthier, more attractive neighborhoods. Residents, businesses, and places of worship can receive stormwater/drainage credits from the City to help build green stormwater infrastructure.

Q: How would you help people build green stormwater infrastructure and access to these credits during your term of office?

A: Obtain funding from the WIFIA (Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act) to provide for other infrastructure improvements and green infrastructure improvements. Also draw funds from the federal and state revolving fund for infrastructure improvements.